

Aug 26, 2026 Virtual SSA

Meeting slides

WHAT ■ ■ ■
STARTS
■ HERE ■
CHANGES
■ EVERYTHING.

SSA PARENT

INFORMATION

SSA VIDEO



WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

What is Single Subject Acceleration (SSA)?

Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) is the practice of placing a student in a higher-grade level in one subject area. This type of acceleration is for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in either Math or English Language Arts.

Who can be tested for SSA?

- Current Kindergarten through 7th grade students
- Requests for SSA testing comes from parents

SSA Process from Test Request to Results

Test Request

Parent communicates to the necessary school members they want to have their student(s) tested for SSA.



SSA test requests can only be submitted during the test request windows for that school. Schools prepare for testing.

Testing

Students test on a computer while in the school building during the Testing Window. All testing must take place in the building.



Schools wait for final results from Advance Learning Services.

Results

Schools share results with parents.



Results will be used to plan instruction for the following school year.

These are 24-25 dates to use as an example. 25-26 dates will update when the county provides them.

SSA Test Request Windows

Leadership Academies: Feb 17-28	Modified: Feb 17-28
Year Round Tracks 2, 3, 4: March 17-28	Year Round Track 1: Feb 17-28
Traditional: Mar 17-28	

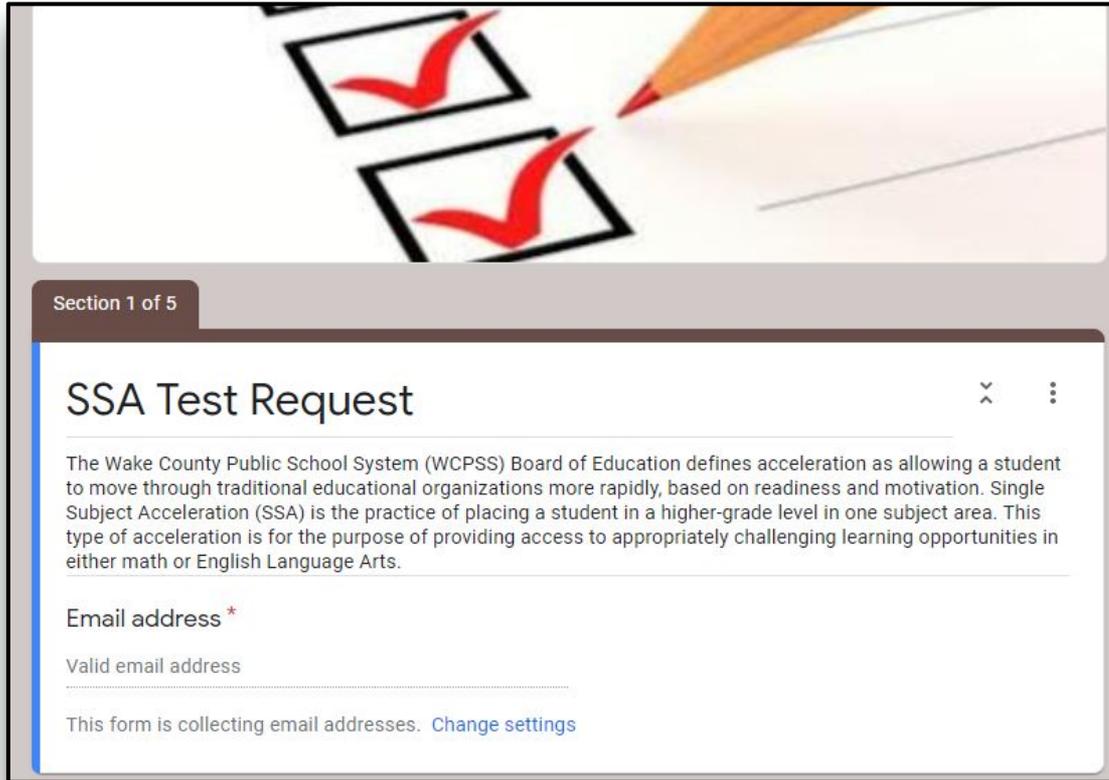
Test Requests will NOT be accepted after the window has closed.

Testing Windows

Tracks 1	February 17 - March 2
Tracks 2, 3, 4	March 16 - 27
Modified:	February 20 - March 6
Leadership Academies	February 23 - March 6
 WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	
www.wcpss.net	

Test Request Form

2025-2026 form is not available yet. This will update when it becomes available.



Section 1 of 5

SSA Test Request

The Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) Board of Education defines acceleration as allowing a student to move through traditional educational organizations more rapidly, based on readiness and motivation. Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) is the practice of placing a student in a higher-grade level in one subject area. This type of acceleration is for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in either math or English Language Arts.

Email address *

Valid email address

This form is collecting email addresses. [Change settings](#)

Click the image to the left to access the test request form.

All test request windows will open at 8:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the first day of the test request window and close at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the last day of the request window.



SSA and ELA

WCPSS does not provide study materials for SSA testing.

SSA ELA Assessments

Student Current Grade Level	Grade/ Course Requesting to Skip	Assessment used to Qualify	Assessment Format	Qualifying Criteria
Kindergarten	1 st Grade ELA	MClass	An in-person written response assessment.	MClass Maze score of 14.5 and proficient (level 4) on written response.
1st Grade	2 nd Grade ELA	Grade 2 Assessment	All assessments for students that are in grades 1st - 7th are multiple choice with a written response.	<p>In English/Language Arts all students must earn ≥85% correct on Acceleration Assessment AND score proficient (level 4) on scored writing prompt for elementary school. Middle school students must score proficient (level 3) on a writing prompt.</p>
2nd Grade	3 rd Grade ELA	Grade 3 Assessment		
3rd Grade	4 th Grade ELA	Grade 4 Assessment		
4th Grade	5 th Grade ELA	Grade 5 Assessment		
5th Grade	6 th Grade ELA	Grade 6 Assessment		
6th Grade	7 th Grade ELA	Grade 7 Assessment		
7th Grade	8th Grade ELA	Grade 8 Assessment		

SSA Testing - Middle School ELA Example

A student must test and show mastery of the content area that they desire to skip.

For example:

- A 6th grade student takes a 7th grade ELA assessment
- If a 6th grade student passes the ELA assessment, the student will attend an 8th grade ELA class for ELA

Looking Down the Road...ELA

Student Sequences for English Language Arts Single Subject Acceleration

Core High School English courses and a few English electives must be taken in sequential order. Selective universities expect to see four years of increasingly complex high school English study on applicants' transcripts.

Current Year	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Current Grade: 4 SSA: 5th Grade ELA	WCPSS Grade 6 online asynchronous course	Grade 7 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school	Grade 8 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school	English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS)	English I (H) or English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Media Literacy (H) African American Literature (H) Speech (H) Creative Writing I (H) Publications options: newspaper or yearbook Other electives 	English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Leadership and Media (H) Creative Writing II (H) Speech II (H) 	English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Shakespeare (H) Advanced Forensics and Debate (H) 	English IV or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Advanced Research and Forensics (H)
Current Year	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year	
Current Grade: 5 SSA: 6th Grade ELA	Grade 7 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school	Grade 8 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school	English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS)	English I (H) or English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Media Literacy (H) African American Literature (H) Speech (H) Creative Writing I (H) Publications options: newspaper or yearbook Other electives 	English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Leadership and Media (H) Creative Writing II (H) Speech II (H) 	English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Shakespeare (H) Advanced Forensics and Debate (H) 	English IV or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Advanced Research and Forensics (H) 	

SSA ELA Trajectory

Student Sequences for English Language Arts Single Subject Acceleration

Core High School English courses and a few English electives must be taken in sequential order. Selective universities expect to see four years of increasingly complex high school English study on applicants' transcripts.

Current Year	7th Grade	8th Grade	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Current Grade: 6 SSA: 7th Grade ELA	Grade 8 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school	English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS)	English I (H) or English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide)	English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide)	English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide)	English IV or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide)
Current Year	8th Grade	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year	Once students have completed Grade 8 ELA courses, the succession of courses may vary and are contingent on the high school in which the student will be attending. Some courses may not be available and/or may be limited.
Current Grade: 7 SSA 8th Grade ELA	English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS)	English I (H) or English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide)	English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide)	English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide)	English IV or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide)	

Upper-level English courses include complex texts and mature thematic content. When making decisions regarding acceleration, students and parents are advised to consider the age and maturity in relation to the content of these courses.

While students will be able to complete all basic graduation requirements in English prior to Grade 12, students and parents should be aware that most selective universities look for four years of increasingly complex high school English study on applicants' transcripts.



SSA and Math

SSA Math Assessments

Student Current Grade Level	Grade/ Course Requesting to Skip	Assessment used to Qualify	Assessment Format	Qualifying Criteria
Kindergarten	1 st Grade Math	1 st Grade NCDPI Summative Math Assessment	Individual constructed response tasks, created by NCDPI	Student receives a 3 (proficient) on each assessment task (will be reviewed by centralized team)
1st Grade	2 nd Grade Math	Grade 2 Assessment	Multiple choice <u>and</u> gridded response items with both calculator active and inactive sections.	≥80% correct on Acceleration Assessment
2nd Grade	3 rd Grade Math	Grade 3 Assessment		
3rd Grade	4 th Grade Math	Grade 4 Assessment		
4th Grade	5 th Grade Math	Grade 5 Assessment		
5th Grade	6 PLUS Math	6 PLUS Assessment		
6th Grade and 7th Grade	7 PLUS Math	7 PLUS Assessment		

SSA Testing - Elementary Math Example

A student must test and show mastery of the content area that they desire to skip.

For example:

- a 3rd grade student takes a 4th grade Math assessment for SSA
- If mastery is shown on the SSA assessment for 4th grade Math, the third grader will take the fifth grade Math course during their fourth grade year

SSA Math Trajectory

Current Math Course	Next Math Course in Sequence	Next Math Course in Sequence	Next Math Course in Sequence	Next Math Course in Sequence	Next Math Course in Sequence
4th Grade Math (SSA: 5th Grade Math)	Math 6+ (face-to-face OR asynchronous)	Math 7+ (face-to-face)	NC Math 1 (for high school credit)	NC Math 2 (for high school credit)	NC Math 3 Honors (for high school credit)
5th Grade Math (SSA: Math 6+)	Math 7+ (face-to-face)	NC Math 1 (for high school credit)	NC Math 2 (for high school credit)	NC Math 3 Honors (for high school credit)	
Math 6 (SSA: Math 7+)	NC Math 1 (for high school credit)	NC Math 2 (for high school credit)	NC Math 3 Honors (for high school credit)		
Math 6+ (SSA: Math 7+)	NC Math 1 (for high school credit)	NC Math 2 Honors (for high school credit)	NC Math 3 Honors (for high school credit)		
Math 7 (SSA: Math 7+)	NC Math 1 (for high school credit)	NC Math 2 Honors (for high school credit)			

Math Sequence Options

	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4
A	Foundations of NC Math 1 (NC Math 1A)	NC Math 1B	Foundations of NC Math 2	NC Math 2	Foundations of NC Math 3	NC Math 3	NC Math 4
B	NC Math 1		NC Math 2		NC Math 3		NC Math 4
C	NC Math 1		NC Math 2 (Honors)		NC Math 3 (Honors)		NC Math 4 (Honors) Or Precalculus And/Or AP Statistics
D	Math Plus (Honors)	NC Math 2 (Honors)	NC Math 3 (Honors)		Precalculus (Honors)** or NC Math 4 (Honors)**		AP Statistics And/or Discrete Math for CS (Honors)
E	Math Plus (Honors)	NC Math 2 (Honors)	NC Math 3 (Honors)		Precalculus (Honors)		AP Calculus AB/BC and/or AP Statistics*
F	NC Math 2 (Honors)		NC Math 3 (Honors)		Precalculus (Honors)		AP Calculus AB/BC and/or AP Statistics*
G	NC Math 3 (Honors)		Precalculus (Honors)		AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus BC	Math Analysis and/or AP Statistics*

Waiver Process

Different placement:

- Parents can request a higher or lower placement
- Process:
 - Complete [the waiver](#) form and return it to your current school principal.
- The principal reviews all waiver requests.
- For additional information please read the [Math Placement Guidelines](#)

Please direct additional questions about math placement to the school counselor.

*****Waivers cannot be submitted to SKIP courses. In order to SKIP courses, students must go through the Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) process.*****

SSA Results

- SSA contact will communicate results
- SSA services **will not** take place until the **next school year**

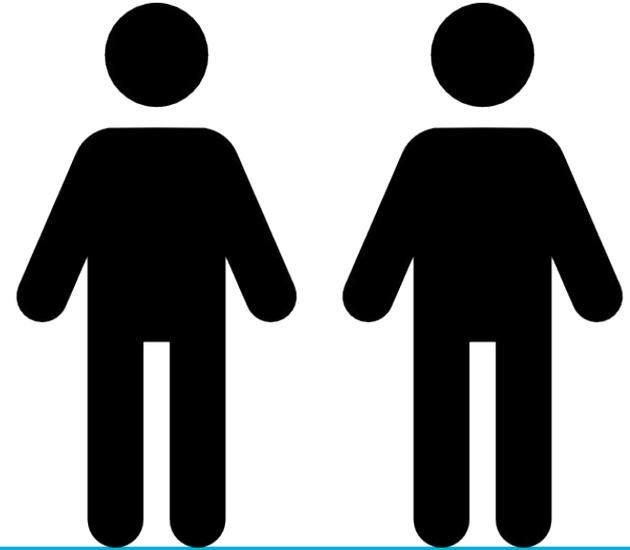
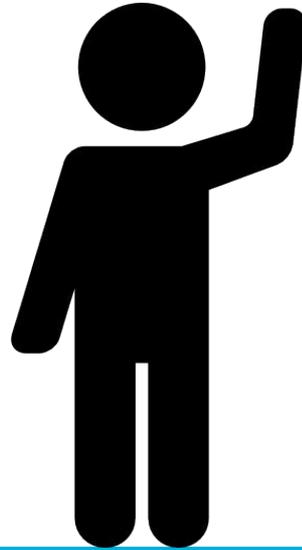
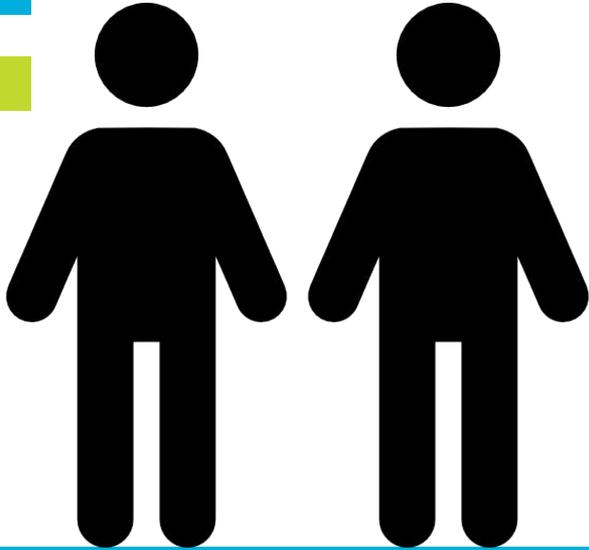


SSA Considerations and Reflections

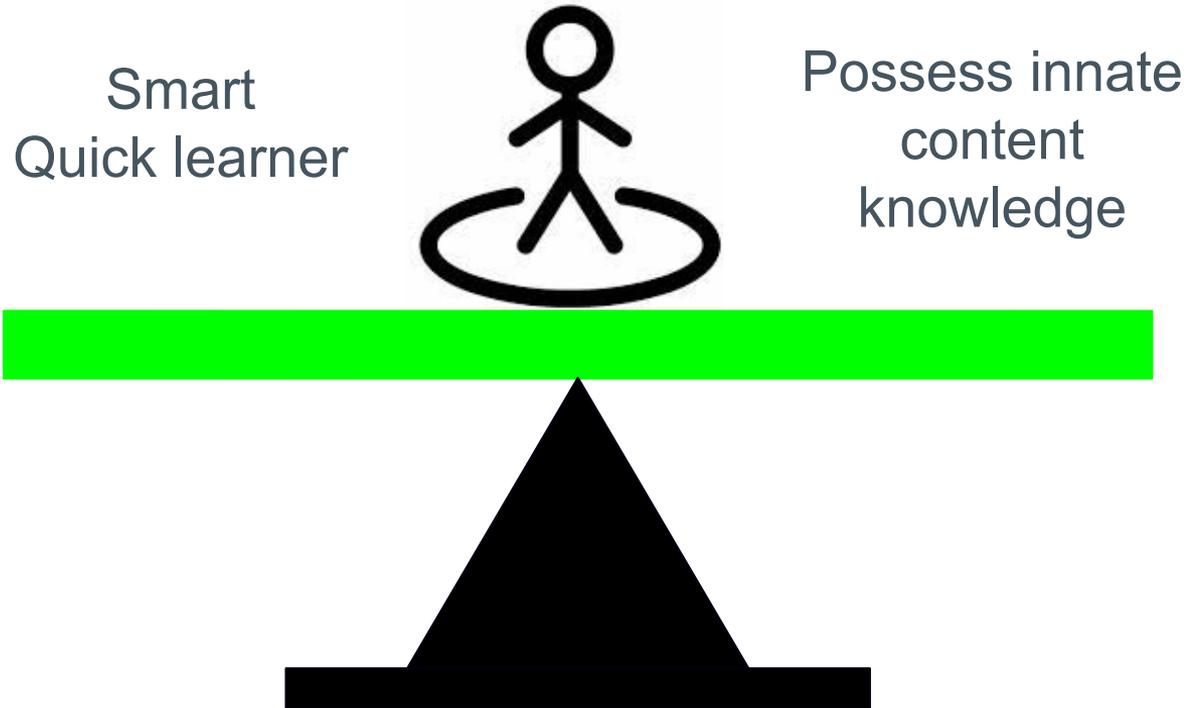
SSA - Is it the right fit for my child?



Qualifies
for SSA



Is my child a good candidate for SSA?



Is my child a good candidate for SSA?

- ✓ Consider your child's social and emotional maturity.
- ✓ Your child may be taking classes with peers who may be older.
- ✓ Consider your child's organizational skills and ability to focus.
- ✓ Can your child begin or complete projects by themselves?

Is my child a good candidate for SSA?

- ✓ Your child will be skipping an entire year's worth of content and background knowledge.
The AIG teacher and homeroom teachers are not responsible for covering any content your child skipped as a result of receiving SSA services.
- ✓ If your child qualifies for SSA in Math or ELA in elementary or middle school, some courses take place online asynchronous. During the school day, students participate independently in these online courses. **These courses are taught asynchronously.**
- ✓ SSA may result in a different class schedule. To accommodate your child's academic needs, the school may assign your child a nontraditional schedule. The final decision about scheduling will be made by the principal at each school.

Parent Reflection

- Have I had conversations about the need for skipping a whole grade level content with my child's teacher?
- How is my child currently performing in the subject area where I might request acceleration?
- Have I considered what SSA might look like and mean for my child in future grades?
- Do all conversations and data indicate that my child has a need for skipping a year's worth of content in order to receive access to rigorous curriculum or challenging curriculum?

Summary

- Single Subject Acceleration is for Wake County Public Schools students in Kindergarten through 7th grade.
- A student is not allowed to skip Math 1 through the SSA program. Math 1 would be part of the CDM process.
- Complete the test request form by the end of the test request window assigned to your child's school.
- Students can test in one subject area only (ELA or math)

Summary

- The 2nd grade-7th grade math assessments have multiple choice and open ended question types
- First grade math assessment has individual constructed response items
- The ELA assessment has a written portion as well as multiple choice reading assessment.
- Consider how Single Subject Acceleration will affect your child's educational career for high school and college.

Contact

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